

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 06134 141743Z
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 AGRE-00 AID-05 EB-08
USIA-06 COME-00 TRSE-00 /055 W
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R 141656Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3990
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ROME 6134

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: FAO, EAID
SUBJECT: ALGERIAN CROP SITUATION

1. ALGERIAN DELEGATE A. MAMMERI OF ALGERIAN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE TO FAO COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY REFERRED TO GENERAL LACK OF RAIN IN NORTH AFRICAN COUNTRIES AND IN PARTICULAR SAID ALGERIA HAD ONLY RECEIVED 130 MM OF RAIN DURING THIS GROWING SEASON THROUGH END OF MARCH. LAST YEAR, A FAIR TO GOOD YEAR, THEY RECEIVED 350MM OF RAIN. SEPARATE PRIVATE TALK WITH MAMMERI INDICATED THE GOA HAS NOT MADE ANY FORECASTS OF HARVEST YET AND THAT GOOD RAINS IN APRIL COULD STILL SAVE A LOT OF THE CROP.

2. NEW ALGERIAN PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO FAO IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION ALSO REFERRED TO SAME CONCERN OVER ALGERIAN CEREAL CROPS THIS YEAR. FAO EARLY WARNING SYSTEM HAS NOT LISTED ALGERIA AS AN AREA OF POOR HARVESTS BECAUSE ALGERIA HAS NOT ADMITTED PROBLEM TO THEM. IN FACT CONFIDENTIAL FAO INFORMATION INDICATES SERIOUS LACK OF RAINFALL EXCEPT IN VICINITY OF ALGIERS AND ORAN.GARDNER

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Message Attributes

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